



### Rodent Prevention Tips

- Keep unit clean
- Seal all holes around pipes, heating ducts and under cabinets.
- Clean all hidden areas under stoves and refrigerators on a regular basis
- Keep yard clean, cut grass
- Store garbage in metal or heavy plastic containers with tight fitting lids.
- Remove weeds and debris near buildings and in yards
- Do not leave pet food outside
- Hire a licensed, insured pest control company familiar with IPM (Integrated Pest Management) techniques.
- Keep grass and shrubbery well trimmed.
- Place bird food in a feeder, not on the ground, clean up spillage daily.
- Clean up animal waste frequently!
- Be sure to seal any openings to the house, even above ground level.
- Repair any breaks in the sewer line connecting your home with the main sewer system.

### Did You know?



The Norway Rat (*Rattus norvegicus*) is the most popular rat in the North East Region.

These rats are heavy set, light brown to almost black.

Their droppings are capsule shaped, about three quarters of an inch long.

Rats generally live for one year at which time they can have six to twelve "pups" per litter, up to seven times a year.

Rats burrow in the ground, under buildings and rubbish; usually living well within 150 feet of food and water source.

Rats require roughly one ounce of food a day and a half ounce of water. They feed habitually on familiar food, preferring meats and grains, and are cautious of new items or new food.

Rats can jump up to three feet and climb wires and pipe very well. Keep doors and windows screened with half-inch mesh hardware cloth.

## Environmental Services Division

*Nationally Recognized  
Leader in Addressing  
Rodent Control in Urban  
Environment*

### PEST MANAGEMENT BROCHURE



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Environmental Sanitation  
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The City of Boston's Environmental Sanitation Division Operates on Four Basic Principles:

- Public Education,
- Improved Sanitation,
- Proactive Prevention
- Rapid Response

This Method Incorporates Education, Enforcement, Clean-up and Rodenticides.

## Functions of Environmental Services

Division are:

- Rapidly respond to rodent complaints
- Emergency trapping and rodent baiting,
- Monitors and treats rodent activity on city property,
- Review construction plans and rodent control specifications.
- Inspect and monitor all permitted construction sites in the city of Boston for rodent activity,

## Documenting Rodent Sightings

Upon receiving a complaint an Environmental Service Inspector will conduct a full comprehensive inspection of the property and affected area.

During this walkthrough the inspector will attempt to identify the food source and the exact area of infestation and activity.



## Violations

If infestation or activity is found, abatements notices will be written and served upon the property owner / manager.

A compliance inspection will be conducted within 7-10 business days after the initial inspection.

*Inspectors will educate property/ business owner on rodent behaviors and corrective measures to take that will correct violation.*

## What are Rodenticides?

Rodenticides are bait used to kill rats, mice and any other rodents. These pesticides come in different variations such as: liquid, pellets, dust and blocks of which can only be purchased by a licensed pest control operator.

## Where are Rodenticides Placed?

Most rodenticides are placed either sub or below surface particularly where heavy activity occurs such as: rodent burrows, sewer systems, construction sites, public alleys, and covered securely.

## Trappings

Trappings are done all year round particularly during the change of seasons which inspectors call "breeding seasons."

Typically inspectors place traps on public properties such as: parks, public streets and alleys.

## Integrated Pest Management (IPM)

An IPM program utilizes all suitable control methods to keep pests populations below the economic injury level. Methods include cultural practices, use of biological, physical and genetic controlled agents and the selective use of pesticides

## Construction Sites

*In accordance with Massachusetts Building Code, section 108.6; Massachusetts State Sanitary Code, Ch. 1, 105 CMR400.100 and Ch. II, 105CMR 410.550 and the City of Boston Code, Ordinance Chapter 16-Section 31 and Ch. 9, Section 1.2, it is established that the control or rodent infestation is a precondition for the issuance of a building permit to do work.*

## City of Boston Code Ordinance

16-31 Rodent and Inspect Prevention Measures at a Construction Site states:

No building permit shall be issued for renovation, conversion, or new construction until the applicant shows evidence the premises have been treated for, or are free from insects and rodents in compliance with all applicable codes. The contractor/applicant shall be held responsible for corrective measures should the construction, renovation or conversion work cause infestation to immediate abutters.

*Dead or alive, mice and rats, spread disease. When in contact they contaminate food with urine and droppings and can start fires by gnawing on electric wires.*

